



Who should complete this form

The candidate and the person appointed to represent them at a voting/counting centre (i.e. scrutineer). Hand completed form to the officer-in-charge of the voting/counting centre.

This form is fillable. Tab through to complete. Print form to sign.

Part A

Candidate to complete

To the officer in charge of the voting/counting centre

(Insert name/place of voting or counting centre)

Local government council and ward (if applicable)

I, (name of candidate)

hereby appoint Title Given name/s (name of scrutineer) Surname

of Residential address Suburb State Postcode

To act as my scrutineer at the above location for the election on Date of election

Signature of candidate

Date

Part B

Scrutineer to complete

I, Title Given name/s Surname

of Residential address Suburb State Postcode

promise that I:

- will act as a scrutineer to the best of my understanding and ability
- will not influence:
 - how an elector votes
 - the result of the election (other than recording my own vote)
- will not reveal what I know about the vote of an elector, except in reply to a question which I am required by law to answer
- will adhere to the code of conduct (see page 3).

Signature of scrutineer

Date

Scrutineer rights and responsibilities

NOTE: Scrutineers must wear the vest and ID tag provided by the NT Electoral Commission.



How many scrutineers are allowed in a voting or counting centre?

Voting centres

Only one scrutineer representing a particular candidate is entitled to be present at a voting centre, and to enter or leave a voting centre, during voting hours. The officer-in-charge (OIC) will retain the vest and ID tag issued to the scrutineer whilst not in the centre. NOTE: A scrutineer's place may be taken by another appointed scrutineer.

Counting centres

One scrutineer representing a particular candidate is entitled (per count table) to be present at a counting centre, and to enter or leave during the conduct of the count. The OIC will retain the vest and ID tag issued to the scrutineer whilst not in the centre. NOTE: A scrutineer's place may be taken by another appointed scrutineer.

Unless advised to the contrary, two count tables will be in operation at voting centres or counting centres.

A scrutineer who contravenes the above is no longer entitled to be at the voting or counting centre.

What a scrutineer can and can't do

A scrutineer CAN:

- observe voting procedures – except the elector actually voting
- be nominated by an elector to assist with the completion of their ballot paper/s
- object to the right of any person to vote - the objection will be noted, although the OIC may still allow the person to vote
- enter and leave the voting/counting centre at any time during voting/counting - the OIC will retain the vest and ID tag issued to the scrutiner whilst not in the voting/counting centre

Note: A scrutineer's place may be taken by another appointed scrutineer

- inspect, but not touch, any ballot paper at the count.

A scrutineer CANNOT:

- stay in a voting centre unless you have provided a completed appointment form
- go into a voting centre without your identification badge and vest
- touch ballot papers
- position themselves in a way that they have a view of the elector marking their ballot paper/s
- go near the voting compartments; except to observe while a voter is being helped by a voting official to mark his/her ballot paper
- interfere with a voter, or attempt to influence them
- reveal anything they know about how an elector has voted
- wear or show campaign emblems, t-shirts, badges or similar inside the voting centre
- use an image recording device (i.e. camera, video recorder, or a camera/video-enabled mobile phone) in a voting or counting centre
- show, hand out, leave or remove 'how-to-vote' material in or from the voting centre
- communicate with any person in a voting centre other than in the exercise of their functions as a scrutineer
- help with clearing voting booths or the removal of material from a voting centre
- assist with the sorting or counting of ballot papers.

Please discuss any queries or objections about procedures with the OIC of the voting or counting centre. Do not talk to voting/counting staff, as they must concentrate on their own duties.

You must respond to any lawful direction from the OIC. Runners cannot come into a voting centre and campaign workers can enter once – in order to vote.



Please turn your mobile phone off or switch to silent before entering a voting/counting centre.

Code of conduct

These code of conduct requirements for candidates, campaign workers and scrutineers are to be read in conjunction with the electoral offences outlined in Part 5 of the Local Government (Electoral) Regulations (see electoral offences listed below).

The following additional conditions stipulate the behaviour expected at all voting and/or counting centres and must be observed by all persons undertaking campaigning or scrutineering activities.

Candidates, campaign workers and scrutineers must not:

- use language that provokes violence towards other candidates or political party campaign workers or members of the public
- intimidate candidates or voters
- enter the prohibition zone set by the officer-in-charge of the voting centre unless duly appointed
- publish or display false information about other candidates or political parties
- plagiarise any other candidate or political party name, acronym or symbol
- offer any inducement or reward to a person to vote for a candidate
- destroy, remove or deface posters belonging to other candidates

A person who does not comply with these conditions may be removed from the voting centre by the officer-in-charge or by the police. Penalties may apply.

Electoral offences

74 Dishonesty

(1) A person commits an offence if:

- (a) the person intentionally claims, or purports, to exercise a voting or other right in relation to an election; and
- (b) the person is not entitled to exercise that right; and
- (c) the person has knowledge of that circumstance.

Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units.

(2) A person commits an offence if:

- (a) the person makes a misleading statement to an authorised officer in connection with an election; and
- (b) the person knows the statement is misleading.

Maximum penalty: 5 penalty units.

75 Interference with electoral materials

(1) A person commits an offence if the person:

- (a) intentionally damages, destroys or interferes with voting papers or other materials prepared for official use in an election; and
- (b) does not have proper authority to do so.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

76 Duty of those who assist voters

(1) A person commits an offence if:

- (a) the person (the assisting person) intentionally assists a person to vote who is unable to vote without assistance; and
- (b) the assisted person's ballot paper is not marked in accordance with the instructions of the assisted person and the assisting person has knowledge of that result.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

(2) A person commits an offence if the person:

- (a) accepts an application for postal voting papers, or completed postal voting papers, for posting or delivery to a returning officer; and
- (b) fails to immediately post or deliver them to the returning officer.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

(3) An offence against subregulation (2) is an offence of strict liability.

77 Conduct at voting centre

(1) A person commits an offence if the person intentionally canvasses for votes in, or within 10 metres of the entrance to, a voting centre while the voting centre is open for voting.

Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units.

(2) A person commits an offence if the person intentionally wears or displays campaign material in a voting centre while the voting centre is open for voting.

Maximum penalty: 5 penalty units.

(3) A person commits an offence if:

- (a) the person is at a voting centre; and
- (b) the authorised officer in charge of the voting centre gives a direction to the person; and
- (c) the direction relates to the person's conduct; and
- (d) the person intentionally fails to comply with the direction.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

Ballot paper formality

Formal ballot papers

A ballot paper is formal provided the order of preference for each candidate and the voter's intention is clear. Changes to numbers, numbers written outside the squares, drawings and slogans do not make the ballot paper informal provided the ballot paper is otherwise marked correctly.

Under the Local Government (Electoral) Regulations a cross (✕) or a tick (✓) or the figure one (1) is taken to be the first preference of a voter.

Formal ballot paper examples:

BALLOT PAPER
Sample Council
Fourth Ward
Election of 1 Councillor

Number the boxes 1 to 5
in the order of your choice

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		C CANDIDATE
<input type="checkbox"/>		A CANDIDATE
<input type="checkbox"/>		G CANDIDATE
<input type="checkbox"/>		B CANDIDATE
<input type="checkbox"/>		R CANDIDATE

Remember ... number EVERY box to
make your vote count

SAMPLE

BALLOT PAPER
Sample Council
Fourth Ward
Election of 1 Councillor

Number the boxes 1 to 5
in the order of your choice

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<input type="checkbox"/>		B CANDIDATE
<input type="checkbox"/>		R CANDIDATE

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Informal ballot papers

A ballot paper is informal if:

- It is completely blank
- There is no number 1 or a cross (✕) or a tick (✓)
- The number 1, a cross (✕) or a tick (✓) appear against two or more names
- Two or more squares have been left blank
- A number has been repeated
- There is a break in the number sequence e.g. 1, 3, 4
- Writing on the ballot paper identifies the voter.

Informal ballot paper examples:

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Fourth Ward
Election of 1 Councillor

Number the boxes 1 to 5
in the order of your choice

<input type="checkbox"/>		C CANDIDATE
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<input type="checkbox"/>		G CANDIDATE
<input type="checkbox"/>		B CANDIDATE
<input type="checkbox"/>		R CANDIDATE

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